In the name of God

Network Flows

1. Introduction 1.2 Notation and Definitions

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- In this section we give several basic definitions from graph theory and present some basic notation.
- We also state some elementary properties of graphs.

• Directed graph

- A directed graph G = (N, A) consists of a set N of nodes and a set A of arcs whose elements are ordered pairs of distinct nodes.



- $N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$
- $A = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 6), (4, 5), (4, 7), (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 7), (6, 7)\}.$

• Directed network

- A *directed network* is a **directed graph** whose nodes and/or arcs have associated:
 - costs
 - capacities
 - and/or supplies and demands
- We use the terms "graph" and "network" synonymously.
- We let *n* denote the number of nodes and *m* denote the number of arcs in *G*.

- Undirected Graphs
 - In an *undirected graph* arcs are unordered pairs of distinct nodes.



In an undirected graph, we can refer to an arc joining the node pair *i* and *j* as either (*i*, *j*) or (*j*, *i*).

• Tails and Heads

- A directed arc (i, j) has two *endpoints i* and *j*.
- Node *i* is the *tail* of arc (i, j) and node *j* is its *head*.
- The arc (i, j) *emanates* from node *i* and *terminates* at node *j*.
- An arc (i, j) is *incident to* nodes *i* and *j*.
- The arc (*i*, *j*) is an *outgoing arc* of node *i* and an *incoming arc* of node *j*.
- Whenever an arc $(i, j) \in A$, we say that node *j* is *adjacent* to node *i*.

• Degrees

- The *indegree* of a node is the number of incoming arcs of that node and its *outdegree* is the number of its **outgoing** arcs.
- The *degree* of a node is the sum of its **indegree** and **outdegree**.
- The sum of indegrees of all nodes equals the sum of outdegrees of all nodes and both are equal to the number of arcs *m* in the network.

• Example of degree:



Node 3 has an indegree of 3, an outdegree of 1, and a degree of 4.

• Adjacency List

- The *arc adjacency list* A(i) of a node *i* is the set of arcs emanating from that node, $A(i) = \{(i, j) \in A: j \in N\}$.
- The *node adjacency list* A(i) is the set of nodes adjacent to that node; in this case, $A(i) = \{j \in N : (i, j) \in A\}$.
- We assume that arcs in the adjacency list A(i) are arranged so that the head nodes of arcs are in increasing order.

- Multiarcs and Loops
 - *Multiarcs* are two or more arcs with the same tail and head nodes.
 - A *loop* is an arc whose tail node is the same as its head node.

• Subgraph

- A graph G' = (N', A') is a *subgraph* of G = (N, A) if $N' \subseteq N$ and $A' \subseteq A$.
- We say that G' = (N', A') is the subgraph of *G induced* by *N'* if *A'* contains each arc of *A* with both **endpoints** in *N'*.
- A graph G' = (N', A') is a *spanning subgraph* of G = (N, A)if N' = N and $A' \subseteq A$.

• Walk

- A *walk* in a directed graph G = (N, A) is a subgraph of G consisting of a sequence of nodes and arcs $i_1 - a_1 - i_2 - a_2 - \dots - i_{r-1} - a_{r-1} - i_r$
- satisfying the property that for all $1 \le k \le r 1$,
- either $a_k = (i_k, i_{k+1}) \in A$ or $a_k = (i_{k+1}, i_k) \in A$.
- Alternatively, we shall sometimes refer to a walk as a set of (sequence of) arcs (or of nodes) without any explicit mention of the nodes (without explicit mention of arcs).



• (a) 1-2-5-7 • (b) 1-2-4-5-2-3

• Directed Walk

- A *directed walk* is an oriented version of a walk in the sense that for any two consecutive nodes i_k and i_{k+1} on the walk, $(i_k, i_{k+1}) \in A$.



- (a) is not a directed walk
- (b) is a directed walk

• Path

- A *path* is a walk without any repetition of nodes.
- Directions are ignored.



- (a) is a path, 1-2-5-7
- (b) is not a path because it repeats node 2 twice., 1-2-4-5-2-3

• We can partition the arcs of a path into two groups: *forward arcs* and *backward arcs*.



• The arcs (1, 2) and (5, 7) are forward arcs and the arc (5, 2) is a backward arc.

• Directed Path

- A directed path is a directed walk without any repetition of nodes.
- In other words, a directed path has no backward arcs.
- Directions are important.



• Cycle

- A *cycle* is a path $i_1 i_2 \dots i_r$ together with the arc (i_r, i_1) or (i_1, i_r) .
- We refer to a cycle using the notation $i_1 i_2 \dots i_r i_1$.
- Just as we did for paths, we can define forward and backward arcs in a cycle.
- Directions are ignored.



The arcs (5, 3) and (3, 2) are forward arcs and the arc (5, 2) is a backward arc of the cycle 2-5-3.

• Directed Cycle

- A directed cycle is a directed path $i_1 i_2 ... i_r$ together with the arc (i_r, i_1) .
- Directions are important.



- (a) is a cycle, but not a directed cycle;
- (b) is a directed cycle.

• Acyclic Graph

- A graph is a *acyclic* if it contains no directed cycle.

• Connectivity

- We will say that two nodes *i* and *j* are *connected* if the graph contains at least **one path** from node *i* to node *j*.
- A graph is connected if every pair of its nodes is connected; otherwise, the graph is *disconnected*.



- (a) is connected graph, and (b) is disconnected graph

• Components

- We refer to the maximal connected subgraphs of a disconnected network as its *components*.



- This graph has two components consisting of the node sets {1, 2, 3, 4} and {5, 6}.

- Strong Connectivity
 - A connected graph is *strongly connected* if it contains at least one directed path from every node to every other node.



A strongly connected graph

• Cut

- A *cut* is a partition of the node set N into two parts, S and $\overline{S} = N S$.
- Each cut defines a set of arcs consisting of those arcs that have one endpoint in S and another endpoint in \overline{S} .
- We refer to this set of arcs as a cut and represent it by the notation $[S, \overline{S}]$.



- A cut with $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $\overline{S} = \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$.
- The set of arcs in this cut are $\{(2, 4), (5, 2), (5, 3), (3, 6)\}$.

• *s*-*t Cut*

- An *s*-*t* cut is defined with respect to two distinguished nodes *s* and *t*, and is a cut $[S, \overline{S}]$ satisfying the property that $s \in S$ and $t \in \overline{S}$.



- If s = 1 and t = 6, this cut is an *s*-*t* cut;
- but if s = 1 and t = 3, this cut is not an *s*-*t* cut.

• Tree

- A *tree* is a connected graph that contains no cycle.
- Property
 - (a) A tree on *n* nodes contains exactly n 1 arcs.
 - (b) A tree has at least two leaf nodes (i.e., nodes with degree 1).
 - (c) Every two nodes of a tree are connected by a unique path.

• Two examples of trees





• Forest

- A graph that contains no cycle is a *forest*.
- Alternatively, a forest is a collection of trees.



– an example of a forest.

• Subtree

- A connected subgraph of a tree is a *subtree*.

• Rooted Tree

A rooted tree is a tree with a specially designated node, called its *root*; we regard a rooted tree as though it were hanging from its root.



- an instance of a rooted tree; node 1 is the root node.

• We often view the arcs in a rooted tree as defining predecessor-successor (or parent-child) relationships.



- Node 5 is the predecessor of nodes 6 and 7,
- Node 1 is the predecessor of nodes 2, 4, and 5.

- Each node *i* (except the root node) has a unique predecessor, which is the next node on the unique path in the tree from that node to the root;
- We store the predecessor of node *i* using a predecessor index *pred*(*i*).
- If *j* = *pred*(*i*), we say that node *j* is the predecessor of node *i* and node *i* is a successor of node *j*.
- These predecessor indices uniquely define a rooted tree and also allow us to trace out the unique path from any node back to the root.

• There are two special type of rooted trees, called a *directed in-tree* and a *directed out-tree*.

• Directed-Out- Tree

A tree is a *directed out-tree* routed at node *s* if the unique path in the tree from node *s* to every other node is a directed path.



- an instance of a directed out-tree rooted at node 1.
- Observe that every node in the directed outtree (except node 1) has indegree 1.

• Directed-In-Tree

A tree is a *directed in-tree* routed at node *s* if the unique path in the tree from any node to node *s* is a directed path.



- an instance of a directed in-tree rooted at node 1.
- Observe that every node in the directed in-tree (except node
 1) has outdegree 1.

• Spanning Tree

- A tree T is a spanning tree of G if T is a spanning subgraph of G.
- Every spanning tree of a connected *n*-node graph G has (*n* 1) arcs.
- We refer to the arcs belonging to a spanning tree T as tree arcs and arcs not belonging to *T* as nontree arcs.

two spanning trees of the graph



• Undirected networks

- An undirected arc (*i*, *j*) has two endpoints, *i* and *j*, but its tail and head nodes are undefined.
- If the network contains the arc (*i*, *j*), node *i* is adjacent to node *j*, and node *j* is adjacent to node *i*.

The End